

TUNING FILTERS HAVING TRANSCONDUCTOR CELLS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 In one embodiment, a filter with a main signal path having one or more biquadratic filter sections is tuned using a tuning circuit based on a biquadratic filter that can be configured to oscillate at the filter's cutoff frequency. In one application, a tuning circuit outside of the main signal path is used to tune each biquadratic filter section of the main signal path. In another application, each filter section along the main signal path has a biquadratic filter that can oscillate and corresponding tuning elements that enable the filter section to tune itself. According to certain embodiments of the present invention, a 10 biquadratic filter is made to oscillate by applying a common-mode voltage signal to the inputs of the filter's third transconductor cell to make the cell's transconductance go to zero. The invention may also be implemented in the context of filters having ladder structures in their main signal path.